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8 Attorney for Plaintiff  
9 JULIE ANN MAYS  
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12 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
13 EASTERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA  
14 SACRAMENTO DIVISION  
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17 JULIE ANN MAYS,  
18 Plaintiff,  
19 v.  
20  
21 FRANK BISIGNANO,  
22 Commissioner of Social Security,  
23 Defendant.

24 Case No. 2:25-cv-01553-TLN-DMC  
25  
26 STIPULATION FOR THE AWARD AND  
27 PAYMENT OF ATTORNEY FEES AND  
28 EXPENSES PURSUANT TO THE  
EQUAL ACCESS TO JUSTICE ACT;  
ORDER

18 IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED by and between the parties through their  
19 undersigned counsel, subject to the approval of the Court, that Plaintiff be awarded  
20 attorney fees and expenses in the amount of \$8,000.00, under the Equal Access to  
21 Justice Act (EAJA), 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d), and no costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920. This  
22 amount represents compensation for all legal services rendered on behalf of Plaintiff by  
23 counsel in connection with this civil action, in accordance with 28 U.S.C. §§ 2412(d),  
24 1920.  
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26 After the Court issues an order for EAJA fees to Plaintiff, the government will  
27 consider the matter of Plaintiff's assignment of EAJA fees to counsel. Pursuant to  
28 *Astrue v. Ratliff*, 560 U.S. 586, 598, 130 S.Ct. 2521, 177 L.Ed.2d 91 (2010), the ability

to honor the assignment will depend on whether the fees are subject to any offset allowed under the United States Department of the Treasury's Offset Program. After the order for EAJA fees is entered, the government will determine whether they are subject to any offset.

Fees shall be made payable to Plaintiff, but if the Department of the Treasury determines that Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, then the government shall cause the payment of fees, expenses and costs to be made directly to Plaintiff's counsel, Francesco Benavides, pursuant to the assignment executed by Plaintiff.

Payments may be made by electronic funds transfer (EFT) or by check.

This stipulation constitutes a compromise settlement of Plaintiff's request for EAJA attorney fees and does not constitute an admission of liability on the part of Defendant under the EAJA or otherwise. Payment of the agreed amount shall constitute a complete release from, and bar to, any and all claims that Plaintiff and/or Francesco Benavides, including the Law Offices of Francesco Benavides, may have relating to EAJA attorney fees in connection with this action.

This award is without prejudice to the rights of Francesco Benavides to seek Social Security Act attorney fees under 42 U.S.C. § 406(b), subject to the savings clause provisions of the EAJA.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: September 29, 2025

## Law Offices of Francesco Benavides

By: /s/ Francesco Benavides  
FRANCESCO P. BENAVIDES  
Attorney for Plaintiff

1 Dated: September 29, 2025

2  
3 ERIC GRANT  
4 United States Attorney  
5 MATHEW W. PILE  
6 Head of Program Litigation 1  
7 Social Security Administration

8 By: *Marcelo Illarmo\**  
9 MARCELO ILLARMO  
10 Special Assistant U.S. Attorney  
11 Attorneys for Defendant  
12 (\*Permission to use electronic signature  
13 obtained via email on September 29, 2025).  
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## ORDER

Based upon the parties' Stipulation for the Award and Payment of Equal Access to Justice Act Fees and Expenses, **IT IS ORDERED** that fees and expenses in the amount of \$8,000.00 as authorized by 28 U.S.C. § 2412, and no costs under 28 U.S.C. § 1920, be awarded subject to the terms of the Stipulation.

DATED: September 29, 2025

Troy L. Nunley  
Chief United States District Judge